

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR BAR EXAMINATION

1. The Tennessee Bar Examination is in two parts - - the essay examination, prepared and graded by the Tennessee Board of Law Examiners, and the Multistate Bar Examination (MBE), prepared and graded under the direction of the National Conference of Bar Examiners. The essay examination is given on the first day, in two sessions of three hours each. The morning session includes the MPT (90 minutes) and three (3) essay questions (90 minutes); the afternoon, six (6) essay questions. The MBE is given on the second day, in two sessions of three hours each. Testing begins at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., respectively, each day. Announcements for all examinees regarding the examination will be made at 8:30 a.m. You are not permitted to leave your seat during instructions. **Please note: if you arrive late, you will not be given extra time; rather, you will finish that part of the exam on the regular exam schedule.** Please pay close attention to all instructions. Failure to follow instructions could seriously impact your results.
2. If you have been approved for non-standard testing time, your testing schedule will be:
Time and one-half: Testing begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m. each day, with the same lunch break.
Double Time: Testing begins and ends at the same time as standard testing but will continue over four (4) days, Feb. 25, 26, 27 and 28. The MPT and 3 essays are tested the first day, the MBE is tested the second and third days, and the remaining 6 essay questions are tested on the last day.
3. When you register for the exam you will receive a card. Keep this card with you throughout the entire exam (ALL DAYS). This is your Applicant Identification (ID) Card and will have a number printed directly under the exam date line. Answer booklets and MBE answer sheets will be identified only by this number during the grading process. At no time will the grader know an applicant by any identification other than this number. This is also a Pledge card which you will sign, in ink, when you have completed the last session of the examination on the second day. At the end of the exam on the second day, there will be a collection box for you to leave the card. It is essential that you follow these instructions since the Board of Law Examiners has no other way of matching names with the numbers on the grade sheets at the end of the grading process. Failure to follow these instructions will delay release of exam results and may void your grades.
4. **WRISTBAND:** At your assigned seat you will find a non-allergenic, waterproof wristband with your name, seat number and NCBE number. You will be required to wear the wristband both days. You will need your NCBE number on the wristband for the MBE portion of the test on Day 2.
5. **PARKING:** Ample parking is available at all sites, some at a fee of \$7 to \$20 per day.
6. **LUNCH:** You are on your own for lunch. There are restaurants at the testing venues or close by. We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the area prior to the exam. Testing ends at noon but collection of exam materials takes several minutes. You must be back in the room by 1:15 for instructions. No one is allowed to remain in the exam room during lunch.
7. We recommend that you familiarize yourself with the area prior to the exam by visiting the area of your testing location or by going online to find parking and lunch options. The actual test sites are secure and inaccessible beginning at noon on Monday, February 23.
8. Bring several **plain black ink pens** with you for the essay examination even if you are typing the exam. Answer booklets and scratch paper will be provided. Answers must be written in black ink (felt-tip pens are not recommended) on one side of the page only.

Bring several **No. 2 pencils** with you for the Multistate Examination (MBE). You may not bring pens, mechanical pencils, or pencil sharpeners into the testing room for the MBE.

Mechanical pencils, digital or electronic pens, highlighters, correction tape or fluid, rulers, and calculators are **not** allowed on any testing day.

9. **ELECTRONICS AND OTHER DEVICES:** Whether on or off, cell phones, pagers, text messaging devices, portable media players, personal digital assistants, handheld computers, external mice and keyboards (wired or wireless), wireless email devices, any type of recording or picture-taking devices, language translators, digital or electronic pens, watches, alarms, radios, or any device other than an authorized laptop that can access the internet or has wireless or Bluetooth capabilities and other devices deemed by the Proctors to be inappropriate are prohibited. There will be a place in the examination room to leave a small bag. *Please note that the Board of Law Examiners and Proctors are not responsible for any bag or contents of any bag that you opt to bring with you.*

If a prohibited device is in the bag or on your person and is discovered during the exam, the device will be impounded and you will be expelled from the room and not allowed to return to complete the examination. You will also be subject to review by the Board of Law Examiners, who may void the results of your exam. ***It is highly recommended that you bring ONLY your photo id, Applicant ID/ Pledge Card, black pens or #2 pencils, authorized laptop and power cord, lunch money and car or room key to the examination room.***

10. You may bring foam type earplugs without a string.
11. **DO NOT** bring any books, written materials or papers other than your applicant ID card into the examination room or testing area, including the areas surrounding the testing room and the assigned restrooms.
12. **ATTIRE:** Please refrain from using perfumes or colognes on exam days as other applicants may be sensitive to the scent. Also, please be considerate of others by not wearing any jewelry or footwear (such as flip-flops) that make noise. **HATS, HOODS and HOODIES** are not allowed. **WATCHES** of any kind are not permitted in the exam room. There will be several clocks visible to everyone in the room.
13. You will be notified of the exam results by email to the address provided in Synergy. Exam results will be posted on the BLE website at www.TN.gov/lawexaminers on April 10, 2015. (This is subject to change.) Please remember to refresh your browser to display the current list. **DO NOT CALL** the Board office for exam results; they will not be released over the phone.
14. **PROCESS AFTER THE EXAM:** All first time applicants and some re-examination applicants must appear for an in-person interview as part of the character and fitness investigation. A member of the District Committee in the interview area you designated on your application will contact you to schedule the interview. No requests for change of your requested interview county will be considered. If you move or change your phone number or email address, please update your profile in Synergy as soon as possible. Failure to do so will result in delays.
15. Being approved to sit for the Tennessee Bar Examination does not mean that your character and fitness investigation is complete. You may pass the bar exam but not be eligible for licensing, pending completion of all steps, including the personal interview, review of the character and fitness investigation, and a passing score of at least 75 on the MPRE within two years of successfully completing the TN bar examination, unless you are licensed and in good standing in another jurisdiction and have an MPRE score of 75 or higher. See Policies and Procedures of the Board at item 2(e).
16. If you have any questions about this information, please call the Board office (615) 741-3234 before February 20, 2015. Do not call the Board office during exam days unless there is an emergency that requires an examinee to be contacted. During the exam, direct all questions to the Chief Proctor. Please do not have family members call to check on the progress of the exam.